APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
08/892,092	07/14/1997	TAKU YAMAGAMI	35.G1994	6547

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EXAMINER
WHITE, MITCHELL

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
2612	

DATE MAILED: 03/12/2002

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

PTO-90C (Rev. 07-01)

— The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address —

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE ___3___ MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136 (a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on _Dec 6, 2001_

2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL.** 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.

3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11; 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

4) ☒ Claim(s) _13-15 and 17-57_ is/are pending in the applica

  4a) Of the above, claim(s) _19, 20, and 41-44_ is/are withdrawn from considera

5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.

6) ☒ Claim(s) _13-15, 17, 18, 21-40, and 45-57_ is/are rejected.

7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.

8) ☐ Claims _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirem

Application Papers

9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.

10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are objected to by the Examiner.

11) ☐ The proposed drawing correction filed on _____ is: a)☐ approved b)☐disapproved.

12) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

13) ☒ Acknowledgement is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d).

  a)☒ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐None of:

   1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.

   2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____ .

   3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

  *See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

14) ☐ Acknowledgement is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e).

Attachment(s)

15) ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)

16) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)

17) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s). _____

18) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s). _____

19) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)

20) ☐ Other: _____

DETAILED ACTION

Continued Prosecution Application

1.   The request filed on 12/6/01 for a Continued Prosecution Application (CPA) under 37 CFR 1.53(d) based on parent Application No. 08/892,092 is acceptable and a CPA has been established. An action on the CPA follows.

Response to Arguments

2.   Applicant's arguments filed 10/9/01 have been fully considered but they are not persuasive. Applicant argues that neither Kawamura et al. (US 5,899,581) or Matsumoto et al. (US 5,796,428) disclose a user attribute information prerecorded in a detachable memory or recording media. However, Matsumoto et al. discloses, in fig. 36, adding a photographer's name to the filename or attribute data by prestoring a photographer's name using the output of the photographer input part (3501) as user attribute data of picture data which is stored in a storage unit together with picture data (col. 14, lines 7-37). Matsumoto further discloses that the storage unit in which the attribute information is stored may be a removable medium such as an IC card, floppy disk, or optical disk (col. 8, lines 1-13). This would have been an obvious modification to Kawamura et al. to provide flexibility and mobility to the files stored in the subdirectories of the camera in Kawamura et al.

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Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

3. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all

obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

> (a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in
> section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art
> are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a
> person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be
> negatived by the manner in which the invention was made.

4. Claims 13-15, 17, 18 and 21-40, and 45-56 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as

being unpatentable over Kawamura (US 5,899,581) in view of Matsumoto et al. (US

5,796,428).

Regarding claim 13, Kawamura et al. discloses a camera having a plurality of modes (col.

1, lines 64-66) and preparing a subdirectory to store files automatically depending on the mode

set (col. 2, lines 1-11). Kawamura et al. discloses an image recording device that automatically

gives files certain filenames depending on the mode that the camera is set in such as PO for

portrait mode and SP for sport mode (col. 5, lines 6-14). Kawamura et al. does not explicitly

state that filenames comprise user information exclusive to the user or that the files are stored on

a detachable memory. However, Matsumoto et al. discloses, in fig. 36, adding a photographer's

name to the filename or attribute data by prestoring a photographer's name using the output of

the photographer input part (3501) as user attribute data of picture data which is stored in a

storage unit together with picture data (col. 14, lines 7-37). It would have been obvious to

modify the Kawamura et al. camera to include the exclusive user filename of Matsumoto et al. as

to allow a plurality of users to distinguish their pictures from several hundred other pictures which may be stored on a large memory. Matsumoto et al. further disclose that the storage unit in which the image and attribute information are stored may be a removable medium such as an IC card, floppy disk, or optical disk (col. 8, lines 1-13). Therefore, it would have been obvious to modify the Kawamura et al. camera as to include a detachable memory as taught by Matsumoto et al. to increase flexibility and mobility of the storage of the image and attribute information.

Regarding claims **14-15**, Kawamura et al. discloses recording images to a memory card using file names by the file format of a versatile operating system (col. 3, lines 1-5). Kawamura et al. discloses a camera having a plurality of modes (col. 1, lines 64-66) and preparing a subdirectory to store files automatically depending on the mode set (col. 2, lines 1-11). Kawamura et al. discloses an image recording device that automatically gives files certain filenames depending on the mode that the camera is set in such as P0 for portrait mode and SP for sport mode (col. 5, lines 6-14). Kawamura et al. does not explicitly state that filenames comprise user information exclusive to the user. However, Matsumoto et al. discloses, in fig. 36, adding a photographer's name to the filename or attribute data by prestoring a photographer's name using the output of the photographer input part (3501) as user attribute data of picture data which is stored in a storage unit together with picture data (col. 14, lines 7-37). It would have been obvious to modify the Kawamura et al. camera to include the exclusive user filename of Matsumoto et al. as to allow a plurality of users to distinguish their pictures from several hundred other pictures which may be stored on a large memory. Matsumoto et al. further disclose that the

storage unit in which the image and attribute information are stored may be a removable medium such as an IC card, floppy disk, or optical disk (col. 8, lines 1-13). Therefore, it would have been obvious to modify the Kawamura et al. camera as to include a detachable memory as taught by Matsumoto et al. to increase flexibility and mobility of the storage of the image and attribute information.

Regarding claim 17, Kawamura et al. discloses recording images to a memory card using file names (col. 1, lines 20-25). Kawamura et al. discloses a camera having a plurality of modes (col. 1, lines 64-66) and preparing a subdirectory to store files automatically depending on the mode set (col. 2, lines 1-11). Kawamura et al. discloses an image recording device that automatically gives files certain filenames depending on the mode that the camera is set in such as P0 for portrait mode and SP for sport mode (col. 5, lines 6-14). Kawamura et al. does not explicitly state that filenames comprise user information exclusive to the user. However, Matsumoto et al. discloses, in fig. 36, adding a photographer's name to the filename or attribute data by prestoring a photographer's name using the output of the photographer input part (3501) as user attribute data of picture data which is stored in a storage unit together with picture data (col. 14, lines 7-37. It would have been obvious to modify the Kawamura et al. camera to include the exclusive user filename of Matsumoto et al. as to allow a plurality of users to distinguish their pictures from several hundred other pictures which may be stored on a large memory. Matsumoto et al. further disclose that the storage unit in which the image and attribute information are stored may be a removable medium such as an IC card, floppy disk, or optical

disk (col. 8, lines 1-13). Therefore, it would have been obvious to modify the Kawamura et al. camera as to include a detachable memory as taught by Matsumoto et al. to increase flexibility and mobility of the storage of the image and attribute information.

Regarding claim **18**, Kawamura et al. discloses reproducing the image and the filename (col. 3, lines 1-5). Kawamura et al. does not explicitly state that filenames comprise user information exclusive to the user. However, Matsumoto et al. discloses, in fig. 36, adding a photographer's name to the filename or attribute data by prestoring a photographer's name using the output of the photographer input part (3501) as user attribute data of picture data which is stored in a storage unit together with picture data (col. 14, lines 7-37. It would have been obvious to modify the Kawamura et al. camera to include the exclusive user filename of Matsumoto et al. as to allow a plurality of users to distinguish their pictures from several hundred other pictures which may be stored on a large memory.

Regarding claim **21**, Kawamura et al. discloses recording images to a memory card using file names (col. 1, lines 20-25). Kawamura et al. discloses a camera having a plurality of modes (col. 1, lines 64-66) and preparing a subdirectory to store files automatically depending on the mode set (col. 2, lines 1-11). Kawamura et al. discloses an image recording device that automatically gives files certain filenames depending on the mode that the camera is set in such as P0 for portrait mode and SP for sport mode (col. 5, lines 6-14). Kawamura et al. does not explicitly state that filenames comprise user information exclusive to the user. However, Matsumoto et al. discloses, in fig. 36, adding a photographer's name to the filename or attribute

data by prestoring a photographer's name using the output of the photographer input part (3501) as user attribute data of picture data which is stored in a storage unit together with picture data (col. 14, lines 7-37). It would have been obvious to modify the Kawamura et al. camera to include the exclusive user filename of Matsumoto et al. as to allow a plurality of users to distinguish their pictures from several hundred other pictures which may be stored on a large memory. Matsumoto et al. further disclose that the storage unit in which the image and attribute information are stored may be a removable medium such as an IC card, floppy disk, or optical disk (col. 8, lines 1-13). Therefore, it would have been obvious to modify the Kawamura et al. camera as to include a detachable memory as taught by Matsumoto et al. to increase flexibility and mobility of the storage of the image and attribute information. Matsumoto et al. further disclose that the storage unit in which the image and attribute information are stored may be a removable medium such as an IC card, floppy disk, or optical disk (col. 8, lines 1-13). Therefore, it would have been obvious to modify the Kawamura et al. camera as to include a detachable memory as taught by Matsumoto et al. to increase flexibility and mobility of the storage of the image and attribute information.

Regarding claim **22**, Kawamura et al. discloses recording images to a memory card using file names (col. 3, lines 1-5).

Regarding claim **23**, Kawamura et al. discloses a sequence control unit communicates with memory card (col. 3, lines 1-8).

Regarding claim **24**, Kawamura et al. does not explicitly state that filenames comprise user information exclusive to the user. However, Matsumoto et al. discloses, in fig. 36, adding a photographer's name to the filename or attribute data by prestoring a photographer's name using the output of the photographer input part (3501) as user attribute data of picture data which is stored in a storage unit together with picture data (col. 14, lines 7-37). It would have been obvious to modify the Kawamura et al. camera to include the exclusive user filename of Matsumoto et al. as to allow a plurality of users to distinguish their pictures from several hundred other pictures which may be stored on a large memory.

Regarding claim **25**, Kawamura discloses preparing files relating the mode of the camera to store image data (col. 2, lines 1-12).

Regarding claim **26**, Kawamura discloses, in fig. 1, a CCD (103).

Regarding claim **27**, Kawamura et al. discloses recording images to a memory card using file names (col. 1, lines 20-25). Kawamura et al. discloses a camera having a plurality of modes (col. 1, lines 64-66) and preparing a subdirectory to store files automatically depending on the mode set (col. 2, lines 1-11). Kawamura et al. discloses an image recording device that automatically gives files certain filenames depending on the mode that the camera is set in such as P0 for portrait mode and SP for sport mode (col. 5, lines 6-14). Kawamura further discloses storing the image and filename together (col. 4, lines 24-31). Kawamura et al. does not explicitly state that filenames comprise user information exclusive to the user. However, Matsumoto et al. discloses, in fig. 36, adding a photographer's name to the filename or attribute data by prestoring

a photographer's name using the output of the photographer input part (3501) as user attribute data of picture data which is stored in a storage unit together with picture data (col. 14, lines 7-37). It would have been obvious to modify the Kawamura et al. camera to include the exclusive user filename of Matsumoto et al. as to allow a plurality of users to distinguish their pictures from several hundred other pictures which may be stored on a large memory. Matsumoto et al. further disclose that the storage unit in which the image and attribute information are stored may be a removable medium such as an IC card, floppy disk, or optical disk (col. 8, lines 1-13). Therefore, it would have been obvious to modify the Kawamura et al. camera as to include a detachable memory as taught by Matsumoto et al. to increase flexibility and mobility of the storage of the image and attribute information.

Claim **28** is considered substantively equivalent to claim 22.

Claim **29** is considered substantively equivalent to claim 23.

Claim **30** is considered substantively equivalent to claim 24.

Claim **31** is considered substantively equivalent to claim 25.

Claim **32** is considered substantively equivalent to claim 26.

Regarding claim **33**, Kawamura et al. discloses recording images to a memory card using file names (col. 1, lines 20-25). Kawamura et al. discloses a camera having a plurality of modes (col. 1, lines 64-66) and preparing a subdirectory to store files automatically depending on the mode set (col. 2, lines 1-11). Kawamura et al. discloses an image recording device that automatically gives files certain filenames depending on the mode that the camera is set in such as

PO for portrait mode and SP for sport mode (col. 5, lines 6-14). Kawamura further discloses storing the image and filename together (col. 4, lines 24-31). Kawamura et al. does not explicitly state that filenames comprise user information exclusive to the user. However, Matsumoto et al. discloses, in fig. 36, adding a photographer's name to the filename or attribute data by prestoring a photographer's name using the output of the photographer input part (3501) as user attribute data of picture data which is stored in a storage unit together with picture data (col. 14, lines 7-37). It would have been obvious to modify the Kawamura et al. camera to include the exclusive user filename of Matsumoto et al. as to allow a plurality of users to distinguish their pictures from several hundred other pictures which may be stored on a large memory. Matsumoto et al. further disclose that the storage unit in which the image and attribute information are stored may be a removable medium such as an IC card, floppy disk, or optical disk (col. 8, lines 1-13). Therefore, it would have been obvious to modify the Kawamura et al. camera as to include a detachable memory as taught by Matsumoto et al. to increase flexibility and mobility of the storage of the image and attribute information.

Claim **34** is considered substantively equivalent to claim 24.

Claim **35** is considered substantively equivalent to claim 25.

Regarding claim **36**, Kawamura et al. discloses an image recording device that automatically gives files certain filenames depending on the mode that the camera is set in such as PO for portrait mode and SP for sport mode (col. 5, lines 6-14).

Regarding claim **37**, Kawamura et al. discloses recording images to a memory card using file names (col. 1, lines 20-25). Kawamura et al. discloses a camera having a plurality of modes (col. 1, lines 64-66) and preparing a subdirectory to store files automatically depending on the mode set (col. 2, lines 1-11). Kawamura et al. discloses an image recording device that automatically gives files certain filenames depending on the mode that the camera is set in such as PO for portrait mode and SP for sport mode (col. 5, lines 6-14). Kawamura further discloses storing the image and filename together (col. 4, lines 24-31). Kawamura et al. does not explicitly state that filenames comprise user information exclusive to the user. However, Matsumoto et al. discloses, in fig. 36, adding a photographer's name to the filename or attribute data by prestoring a photographer's name using the output of the photographer input part (3501) as user attribute data of picture data which is stored in a storage unit together with picture data (col. 14, lines 7-37). It would have been obvious to modify the Kawamura et al. camera to include the exclusive user filename of Matsumoto et al. as to allow a plurality of users to distinguish their pictures from several hundred other pictures which may be stored on a large memory. Matsumoto et al. further disclose that the storage unit in which the image and attribute information are stored may be a removable medium such as an IC card, floppy disk, or optical disk (col. 8, lines 1-13). Therefore, it would have been obvious to modify the Kawamura et al. camera as to include a detachable memory as taught by Matsumoto et al. to increase flexibility and mobility of the storage of the image and attribute information.

Claim **38** is considered substantively equivalent to claim 24.

Claim **39** is considered substantively equivalent to claim 25.

Claim **40** is considered substantively equivalent to claim 36.

Regarding claim **45**, Matsumoto et al. discloses, in fig. 36, adding a photographer's name to the filename or attribute data by prestoring a photographer's name using the output of the photographer input part (3501) as user attribute data of picture data which is stored in a storage unit together with picture data (col. 14, lines 7-37). Matsumoto et al. further disclose that the storage unit in which the image and attribute information are stored may be a removable medium such as an IC card, floppy disk, or optical disk (col. 8, lines 1-13). Matsumoto et al. further disclose storing attribute information retrieved from the storage means that relates to the image data or voice data (col. 5, lines 41).

Regarding claim **46**, Matsumoto et al. discloses, in fig. 36, adding a photographer's name to the filename or attribute data by prestoring a photographer's name using the output of the photographer input part (3501) as user attribute data of picture data which is stored in a storage unit together with picture data (col. 14, lines 7-37).

Regarding claim **47**, Matsumoto et al. disclose editing and classifying each image in the storage medium (col. 31-42).

Regarding claim **48**, Matsumoto et al. disclose, in fig. 1, an image pickup device (103).

Regarding claim **49**, Matsumoto et al. discloses, in fig. 36, adding a photographer's name to the filename or attribute data by prestoring a photographer's name using the output of the photographer input part (3501) as user attribute data of picture data which is stored in a storage

unit together with picture data (col. 14, lines 7-37). Matsumoto et al. further disclose that the storage unit in which the image and attribute information are stored may be a removable medium such as an IC card, floppy disk, or optical disk (col. 8, lines 1-13). Matsumoto et al. further disclose storing attribute information retrieved from the storage means that relates to the image data or voice data (col. 5, lines 41).

Regarding claim **50**, Matsumoto et al. discloses, in fig. 36, adding a photographer's name to the filename or attribute data by prestoring a photographer's name using the output of the photographer input part (3501) as user attribute data of picture data which is stored in a storage unit together with picture data (col. 14, lines 7-37).

Regarding claim **51**, Matsumoto et al. disclose editing and classifying each image in the storage medium (col. 31-42).

Regarding claim **52**, Matsumoto et al. disclose, in fig. 1, an image pickup device (103).

Regarding claim **53**, Matsumoto et al. discloses, in fig. 36, adding a photographer's name to the filename or attribute data by prestoring a photographer's name using the output of the photographer input part (3501) as user attribute data of picture data which is stored in a storage unit together with picture data (col. 14, lines 7-37). Matsumoto et al. further disclose that the storage unit in which the image and attribute information are stored may be a removable medium such as an IC card, floppy disk, or optical disk (col. 8, lines 1-13). Matsumoto et al. further disclose storing attribute information retrieved from the storage means that relates to the image data or voice data (col. 5, lines 41).

Regarding claim **54**, Matsumoto et al. discloses, in fig. 36, adding a photographer's name to the filename or attribute data by prestoring a photographer's name using the output of the photographer input part (3501) as user attribute data of picture data which is stored in a storage unit together with picture data (col. 14, lines 7-37).

Regarding claim **55**, Matsumoto et al. disclose editing and classifying each image in the storage medium (col. 31-42).

Regarding claim **56**, Matsumoto et al. discloses, in fig. 5, classifying images into file lists which include filenames (col. 9, lines 55-65).

5. **Claim 57 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Kawamura in view of Matsumoto et al. and Allen et al. (US 5,737,491).**

Regarding claim **57**, Matsumoto et al. discloses, in fig. 36, an electronic photography system which adds a photographer's name to the filename or attribute data by prestoring a photographer's name using the output of the photographer input part (3501) as user attribute data of picture data which is stored in a storage unit together with picture data (col. 14, lines 7-37). Matsumoto et al. further disclose that the storage unit in which the image and attribute information are stored may be a removable medium such as an IC card, floppy disk, or optical disk (col. 8, lines 1-13). Matsumoto et al. does not explicitly state that the exclusive user attribute such as a photographer's name is changed after an authentication is performed using stored authentication information. However, Allen et al. disclose using a voice recognition as a means of authentication wherein once a user has been authenticated control signals are generated

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to be appended to the digital file image (col. 2, lines 35-62). Therefore, it would have been obvious to modify the Matsumoto et al. photography system to include an authentication as taught by Allen et al. to provide a means of securing and protecting the user information from a plurality of users.

Conclusion

6.   **Any response to this action should be mailed to:**

Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks

Washington, D.C. 20231

or faxed to:

(703) 872-9314 (for informal or draft communications, please label

"PROPOSED" or "DRAFT")

Hand-delivered responses should be brought to Crystal Park II, 2121

Crystal Drive, Arlington, VA, Sixth Floor (Receptionist).

7.   Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Mitchell White whose telephone number is (703) 305-8155. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Thursday from 8:00 to 5:30.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Wendy Garber, can be reached on (703) 305-4929.

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Any inquiry of general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the Group receptionist whose telephone number is (703) 305-4700.

MLW

March 8, 2002
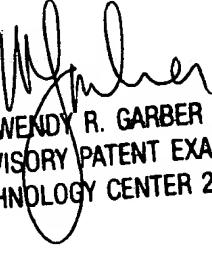
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